GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:897
ANSWERED ON:20.07.2017
Status of PMGSY
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Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) along with its present status;

(b) the details of the funds allocated, sanctioned and utilised under the said Yojana during the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;

(c) the details of the target set and achievements made under this Yojana during the said period, State/UT-wise;

(d) whether achievement made under the scheme is lagging behind from the fixed target and if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard; and

(e) whether the Government proposes to reduce the targets under PMGSY and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV)

(a) : 'Rural roads' is a State Subject and Government of India has launched Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) on 25th December, 2000, as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, with the objective to provide a single all-weather road with necessary culverts and cross-drainage structures to the eligible unconnected habitations, existing in the Core Network, in rural areas of country. The programme envisages connecting all eligible unconnected habitations with a population of 500 persons and above (as per 2001 Census) in plain areas and 250 persons and above (as per 2001 Census) in Special Category States (Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim,Tripura Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir and Uttarakhand), Tribal (Schedule-V) areas, the Desert Areas (as identified in Desert Development Programme) and in Selected Tribal and Backward Districts (as identified by the Ministry of Home Affairs/Planning Commission). The PMGSY permits upgradation (to prescribed standards) of existing rural roads in districts where all the eligible habitations of the designated population size have been provided all weather road connectivity. For most intensive IAP blocks as identified by the Ministry of Home Affairs the unconnected habitations with population 100 and above (as per 2001 Census) are eligible for coverage under PMGSY. The Government of India has also launched PMGSY-II which envisages consolidation of the existing rural road network to improve its overall efficiency as a provider of transportation services for the people, goods and services. It aims to cover upgradation of existing selected rural roads based on their economic potential and their role in facilitating the growth of rural market centers and rural hubs.

(b) : State-wise details of Central funds allocated, Central funds released and expenditure reported by the States under PMGSY during the last three years and the current year are given at Annexure –I.

(c) : State-wise details of the target set and achievements thereof under PMGSY during the last three years and current year are given at Annexure-II.

(d) & (e) : PMGSY is implemented by the State Governments i.e., tenders are floated and works are awarded by the States. The reasons for non- achieving the target in some of the States as reported by them include:-

(i) Inadequate execution capacity of the States;

(ii) Some of the construction materials such as cement, steel, bitumen, machinery, Limited personnel handle machinery, etc., are not locally available;

(iii) Limited contracting capacity;

(iv) Non-availability of land and issues of forest clearances, on the proposed alignment of PMGSY roads;

(v) Law and order problem in some parts of the States.

The Ministry of Rural Development have taken a number of steps to improve the pace of implementation of PMGSY works in the States, such as :

(i) The States have been allowed to engage Central Public Sector undertaking (CPSUs) to augment the execution capacity

(ii) The provisions of the Standard Bidding Document have been rationalized;

(iii) Training imparted to field engineers and contractors as well as their staff for capacity building on a regular basis;

(iv) Special dispensation have been provided in PMGSY guidelines in respect of Left Wing Extremism affected areas to improve the pace of implementation, such as (a) minimum package size/value reduced to Rs.50 lakh; (b) time limit upto 24 calendar months have been allowed for completion of works; (c) provision of insurance of plant and machinery provided in Detailed Project Reports (DPRs).

Further, for accelerated execution of PMGSY in the States, the Ministry of Rural Development, in consultation with the Ministry of Finance and the States, has formulated an action plan to advance the completion target of the programme from 2022 to 2019 with enhanced financial allocation to the States and modified funding pattern in the scheme. The fund sharing pattern of PMGSY has been revised in the ratio of 60:40 between the Centre and the States for all States excepting 8 North-Eastern and 3 Himalayan States (i.e., Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh & Uttarakhand) for which it is 90:10.

In respect of 9 States (Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jammu & Kashmir, Jharkhand, Odisha, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand and West Bengal) where relatively large number of works are pending for completion, special meetings have been held with Chief Secretaries and other officials of the States to review the implementation of PMGSY works. For speedy execution of projects in a time bound manner, monthly and yearly completion targets have been fixed and are monitored regularly by the Ministry of Rural Development. Further, State Governments are also advised through various Regional Review meetings and Empowered Committee meetings to take suitable necessary action to expedite timely completion of road works under PMGSY.

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